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With the Iowa State Home Economics Association

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With the Iowa State Home Economics Association

Edited by MRS. FRED FERGUSON

FARM women in 95 counties made valuable contributions to "Iowa's Agricultural Program" during 1923-24. One well organized Home Project was conducted in each of the 95 counties. This is a substantial growth, from 25 counties in 1922 to 65 in 1923 to 95 in 1924, to 99 in 1925.

A well organized project means one in which all organized townships take part. In 100% counties all townships are organized as follows: Township project leader, publicity chairman, and a co-operator in each school district. This group of women constitute a township committee that functions as an active committee for project work. The July 1st records report 1260 townships organized in this way, and 1000 of this number that actually function as an active committee.

One of the vital points in the results reported by those committees is the activity of local leaders trained thru project work.

Seven thousand local leaders report at least one follow-up meeting a month for five months. This makes a total of 35,000 meetings held by local leaders who have received their instruction in the training school.

These local leaders report that they have met an average of 10 women at each meeting or a total of 350,000 for the state of Iowa. The Iowa farm women look upon this as a part of their job to reach every farm woman in the State of Iowa and they are steadily reaching their goal.

The factors which determine high standard homes are; adequate income, health education, recreation, appreciation of the beautiful, religious life, community surroundings and social responsibility. These objectives and the methods of reaching them have been explained in the following summary:

1. Adequate Income.

The income depends not only upon money earned, but upon the real economy used in spending it. Please note that economy means "Wise Spending." The Home Management Project in 14 counties has stressed economy of time, money and energy. The women report that it has been of direct value to them, thru the study of expenditure of home accounts, the keeping of home accounts, and the saving of time,

Editor's Note: Lest we forget that not all home economics work is done in high schools and colleges, we are glad we have this report of the results of home projects in Iowa for 1923-1924.

money and energy. It has helped them to study the business of homemaking and to enlarge their vision concerning the importance of the job.

Altho this subject is more directly related to the subject of "Adequate Income" all other projects have made their contribution. Home furnishings has done its part thru refinishing of furniture, home dyeing and the making of home made rugs. Nutrition has placed its emphatic O. K. upon the doctrine, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." Hundreds of letters from the leaders prove that it has succeeded. Clothing projects have saved hours of time and hundreds of dollars as actually reported by the women. Directly or indirectly the question of income has been stressed by project work in 95 counties.

2. Health.

Now comes health, upon which no money value can be placed. It is priceless. The farm women, thru township and county committee organizations have helped to conduct Baby Health Clinics in every county in the state. That job alone

justifies the money and effort put into organization.

Farm women conducted nutrition projects in 36 counties in 1923-1924. They state their reasons as follows: "For Health and Economy." Is it a worth while reason? Is it worth while to conserve health? Is disease an economic waste?

3. Education.

Farm women believe that life becomes broader and brighter thru study. They believe that all project work contributes toward this end, thru facts learned and desire for study.

4. Recreation.

One of the big events of the year is the "Farm Women's Camp" held at Camp Brewster last July. The women enjoyed play, rest and a worth while program each day for one week. Plans are made to hold a similar camp this year. They believe that all work and no play does indeed dull one's outlook upon life.

5. Appreciation of the Beautiful.

Sixty-five counties conducted clothing projects partly because they enjoy good color combinations and good design in dress. Fourteen counties conducted home furnishing projects because they enjoy pleasing pictures and restful colors in the home.

Some counties conducted projects in landscape work because they want the inspiration and pleasure from beautiful surroundings.

6. Religious Life.

Seven thousand farm women enjoyed the spirit of service when they passed the work they received at training schools on to their neighbor women. Service is closely kin to religion. Thousands of farm women say, "My church work comes first, after that my community work is for agriculture."

7. Community

Surroundings.

Township committees in 1260 townships are using their organizations to further and develop boys and girls clubs, school activities, church activities and for cooperation with other organizations.

8. Social Responsibility.

This includes the leadership, personal responsibility the broad vision and the real citizenship of the 7000 local leaders who are devoting time, thought, money,

To the Teachers of Home Economics in Iowa:

I am happy to have been invited by your editor to say a word to you. First, I want to extend the season's greetings to each of you, and the best of good wishes for your continued success in this our great work of Home Economics education. On behalf of the Staff of the Iowa Homemaker, I am happy to offer our services to you in any way in which the work of Home Economics can be promoted by this paper.

We are very glad that you have made the Iowa Homemaker, the official organ of the State Home Economics Association, and I hope each of you will take advantage of this opportunity to let all of us know what you are doing in your school, or bits of interesting news for Home Economics people in Iowa.

Our able association editor, Mrs. Fred Ferguson, will do her part, but she does need the help of each member of the association to make this a truly representative organ.

I am eager to see our association a strong active one, enlisting the interest of every member. No

teacher should be working alone, if there is no other teacher in your town, get in touch with the teacher in the nearest town, or associate yourself with the club in your community, which is working for the advancement of home and community.

Can we make this our association New Year's resolution? To make contact, before another month, with my nearest Home Economics neighbor. We know we are promoting the work, which is of the most far reaching importance to the welfare and happiness of our state, but it is so big and important that we cannot do it alone. Join your forces with ours, and thereby many times multiply the effectiveness of your effort.

As a National Vice-President, I am of course ambitious to see our association in the front ranks. We are way down the list at present for our membership is behind other states of our size. We won't be satisfied until every teacher of Home Economics is a member of the State Association. Don't forget your association resolution.

Yours in Home Economics

Anna E. Richardson,
Dean of Home Economics,
Iowa State College.

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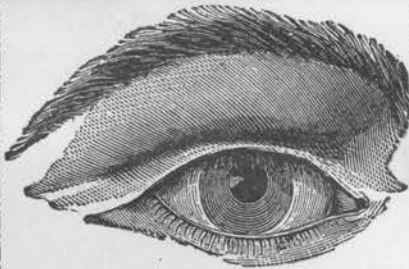
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viewpoint to take on the matter. A good quality of machine made lace has its place in wearing apparel just as any good, artistic, inexpensive fabric has. It seems to me that it would indicate a lack of good judgment for one to scorn using a good imitation val or filet for trimming, and then perhaps deny himself actual necessities in order to buy hand-made val or filet.

The most of us find handmade lace beyond our means, at least a certain satisfaction may be had in being able to recognize it when we see it. Certain differences between "the real thing" and imitations are: machine lace is **not** made with looped stitches like needle point lace, nor do we find in it the effect of plaited threads as in Pillow lace; the "toile" of machine lace is often found to be ribbed, like the ribbed texture of a knitted stocking; while old Needle and Pillow lace is always worked with line thread, machine lace is very generally made of cotton; furthermore, machine lace is too perfect; the irregularities of hand made lace denote its origin. But, as Mrs. Sharp, author of "Point and Pillow Lace," says, "We are so made that the imperfect even, pleases us more than the perfect, if it tells us that human beings have expended time and zeal in their efforts after perfection."

With Iowa Home Economics Association

(Continued from page 6)

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7...Community Surroundings.

Township committees in 1260 townships are using their organizations to further and develop boys and girls clubs, school activities, church activities and for cooperation with other organizations.

8...Social Responsibility.

This includes the leadership, personal responsibility the broad vision and the real citizenship of the 7000 local leaders who are devoting time, thought, money and energy to the development of the farm, home and community life in Iowa.

Signed by the State Committee of Farm Women.

1st. District, Mrs. J. A. Randall, New London, Iowa.

2nd. District, Mrs. H. Woodward, Williamsburg, Iowa.

3rd. District, Mrs. Heike A. Rust, Sheffield, Iowa.

4th. District, Mrs. George Peckham, Castalia, Iowa.

5th. District, Mrs. M. D. Frye, Vinton, Iowa.

6th. District, Mrs. Clarence Decatur, Grinnell, Iowa.

7th. District, Mrs. Jacob Solberg, Nevada, Iowa.

8th. District, Mrs. Harley Condra, Seymour, Iowa.

9th. District, Mrs. Eugene Cutler, Logan, Iowa.

10th. District, Mrs. Van Bloom, Dayton, Iowa.

11th. District, Mrs. Frank Wright, Mo-ville, Iowa.

Chairman of Committee, Mrs. Ellsworth Richardson, Pella, Iowa.

Home Economics Extension Work with Farm Women, Neals S. Knowles, Ames, Iowa.

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